

Homegrown Minneapolis Food Council Minutes

Regular Meeting

February 8, 2023 - 5:30 pm

Northeast Recreation Center, multipurpose room, 1530 Johnson St NE

Members Present: Jenny Breen (Co-Chair), Kevalin Aulandez, Matt Croaston, Kevin Ellis, Rebecca Gross, Andrea Inouye, Danielle Isaacson, Kristen Klingler, Will Lucker, James Miller, Tricia Nelson, Anne Stahn, and Kirsten Weigle, Angela Williams (Quorum: 13)

Members Absent: Marcus Kar (Co-Chair), Jason Brisson, Keely Cervantes, Brandon Griffin, Kim Havey, Elizabeth Mullen, DeVon Nolen, Helen Schnoes, and Julie Wong

Staff : Alison Babb, Patty Bowler, Grace Rude, Tong Thao, Moses Viveros, Brenna Ruegg

Call To Order

1. Roll Call.

Quorum Present

2. Adoption of the agenda.
Motioned by Angela Williams and seconded by Will Lucker.

Action Taken: Adopted

3. Acceptance of minutes
Motioned by Will Lucker and seconded by Angela Williams.
[Jan 11, 2023 Homegrown Minneapolis Food Council](#)

Action Taken: Accepted

Presentation

4. Boards and Commissions Survey

Michael Yang from the Neighborhood and Community Relations (NCR) department gave a brief introduction of the NCR board and commission survey, and he encourages all Food Council members to participate in the survey. NCR is conducting a survey to analyze the demographics of who is serving on Advisory Boards and Commissions (ABCs), including the Homegrown Minneapolis Food Council. The survey has been on pause due to the COVID-19 pandemic and this will be the first year the city has conducted one since 2018. This survey is an important tool in measuring the demographics of our ABCs against census data and guiding recruitment efforts to reflect the city's population more closely. The results are aggregated and anonymous.

Action Taken: No action taken

5. Icebreaker Activity

Food Council members, staff, and community member introductions.

Ice breaker prompt: What is your useless superpower?

Action Taken: No action taken

6. Homegrown Minneapolis Urban Agriculture Updates

Grace Rude from Homegrown Minneapolis gave a short presentation on Minneapolis Urban Agriculture updates to help inspire and provide more context for potential implementation ideas. The topics that were covered are: the Garden Lease Program, efforts to create permanent gardens, Deep Winter Greenhouses, updates regarding agricultural season extension policy, and Minneapolis Edible Boulevards.

Action Taken: Received and filed

Kevin Ellis presented the following motion: "I move for Homegrown Food Council Co-Chairs Marcus Kar and Jenny Breen to draft and submit on our behalf a letter to:

1. highlight the importance of changing the zoning code to better support season extension in our city, and
2. encourage CPED to incorporate the changes as part of the current land use rezoning study."

Will Lucker seconded the motion.

The motion was approved unanimously by the Food Council members present.

Action Taken: Approved

Discussion

7. Introduction to Implementation Planning

City staff are currently in the process of meeting with City Council Members of the Public Health and Safety committee to brief them about the vision. The Minneapolis Food Vision will be presented at the Public Health and Safety committee meeting on March 1 at 1:30pm.

After endorsing the Minneapolis Food Vision (MFV), the Homegrown Minneapolis Food Council will now be turning its attention to creating a companion document, the Minneapolis Food Action Plan (MFAP). There are 4 stages to this plan process: identify actions, prepare metrics, determine workplan, and develop MFAP. The 2023 Minneapolis Food Action Plan will focus on the strategies identified by the Homegrown Food Council as most important/exciting for each strategic priority.

Two case studies (Douglas County, Kansas Food System Plan and Denver, Colorado Food Vision) were shared to give Food Council members ideas about what the implementation plan can potentially look like.

Food Council members were asked to select a work group to join. The three work groups are healthy food skills, urban agriculture land access and season extension, and local food procurement. Food Council members also created lists of contacts who the Food Council and City staff should reach out to for work group recruitment. Work groups will explore best practices to determine/vet focus actions.

Within each workgroup, there will be two co-chairs, a Homegrown staff member and a Food Council member. Co-chairs will work with technical support to prepare for each HG Council meeting, guide work groups through phased planning process during HG Food Council meetings, play a key role in drafting and editing relevant content for workplan Minneapolis Food Action Plan, and likely attend one additional meeting per month for the next few months.

[Food Council Presentation Slides](#)

Action Taken: Received and filed

Announcements

8. Food Council member and community member announcements if time permits
Brenna Ruegg announced that the completion of the 2022 Homegrown highlights. [View the Homegrown Minneapolis Highlights 2022](#) on the Homegrown website.

Patty Bowler announced that Public Health Week is happening in April. Please spread awareness and/or nominate anyone you know who is doing amazing public health related work in Minneapolis.

The annual [Community Connections Conference](#) is happening on June 10, 2023.

Mayor Frey nominated Damōn Chaplin to serve as Health Commissioner. Damōn Chaplin will go before the Public Health and Safety committee on February 15.

Grace Rude announced that the Garden Lease Program request form is open. [Visit the Garden Lease page](#) on the Homegrown website to see details.

Homegrown is also looking for photobanks from partners/Food Council members that could be utilized for the graphic design of the Minneapolis Food Vision.

Kirsten Weigle announced that the Minneapolis Public Schools (MPS) Culinary Center had just finished hosting a tour of their kitchen. The tour is open to all MPS caregivers, staff, and community members interested in learning more about MPS' True Food approach, nutrition philosophy and commitment to serving scratch-made, local foods. They plan to do another tour on March 8 and March 21 at 10:30 a.m. The Tour will be an hour long. Space is limited to 20 adults per tour. [Please visit the MPS Culinary Center to sign up for the tour.](#)

Andrea Inouye announced that the new Climate and Public Health policy staff member, Ed Jaramillo, will be taking over her seat starting in March.

Angela Williams announced a networking event happening on the 28th at the Ward 4 Council office.

Alison Babb announced that the Minneapolis Health Department Emergency Preparedness team is hosting an Emergency Preparedness Workshop for community organizations on Wednesday, February 22, 2023 from 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. at the East Side Neighborhood Services, 1700 2nd Street Northeast, Minneapolis 55413. [Register for the event](#) on Eventbrite.

Action Taken: No action taken

Adjournment